

# The Costs and Benefits of Natural Resources Protection Soil & Water Conservation Program

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Governor's Conference on Natural Resources  
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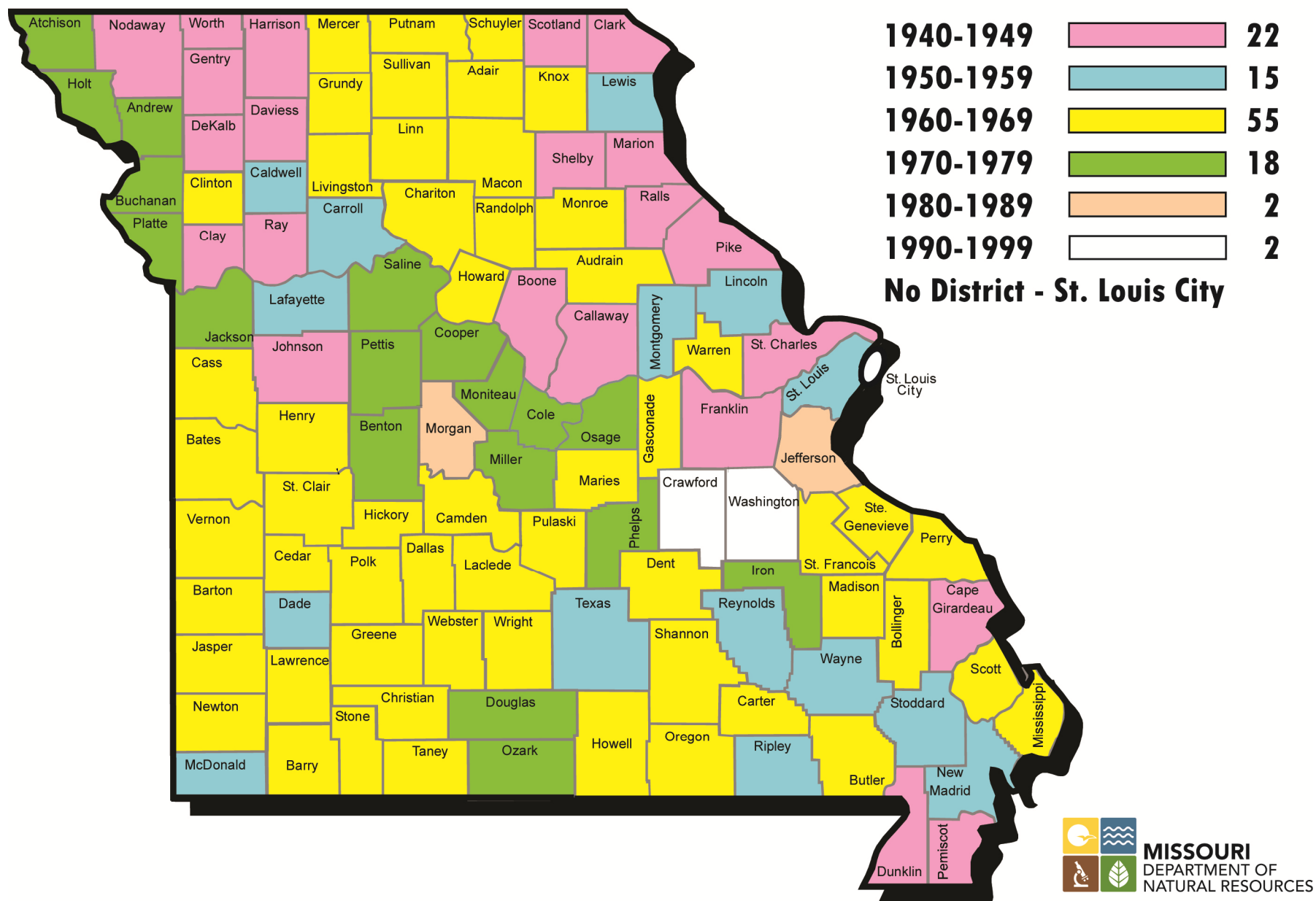
# Missouri's Rank Among States - Agriculture

- 1<sup>st</sup> in parks, soils and water citizen support
- 2<sup>nd</sup> in number of farms, cattle operations and hay
- 3<sup>rd</sup> in calves
- 5<sup>th</sup> in rice
- 6<sup>th</sup> in milk and turkeys
- 7<sup>th</sup> in soybeans
- 8<sup>th</sup> in cotton and hogs
- 9<sup>th</sup> in grapes
- 10<sup>th</sup> in corn and sorghum



Black Sunday  
April 14, 1935

# Missouri SWCDs - Year Organized

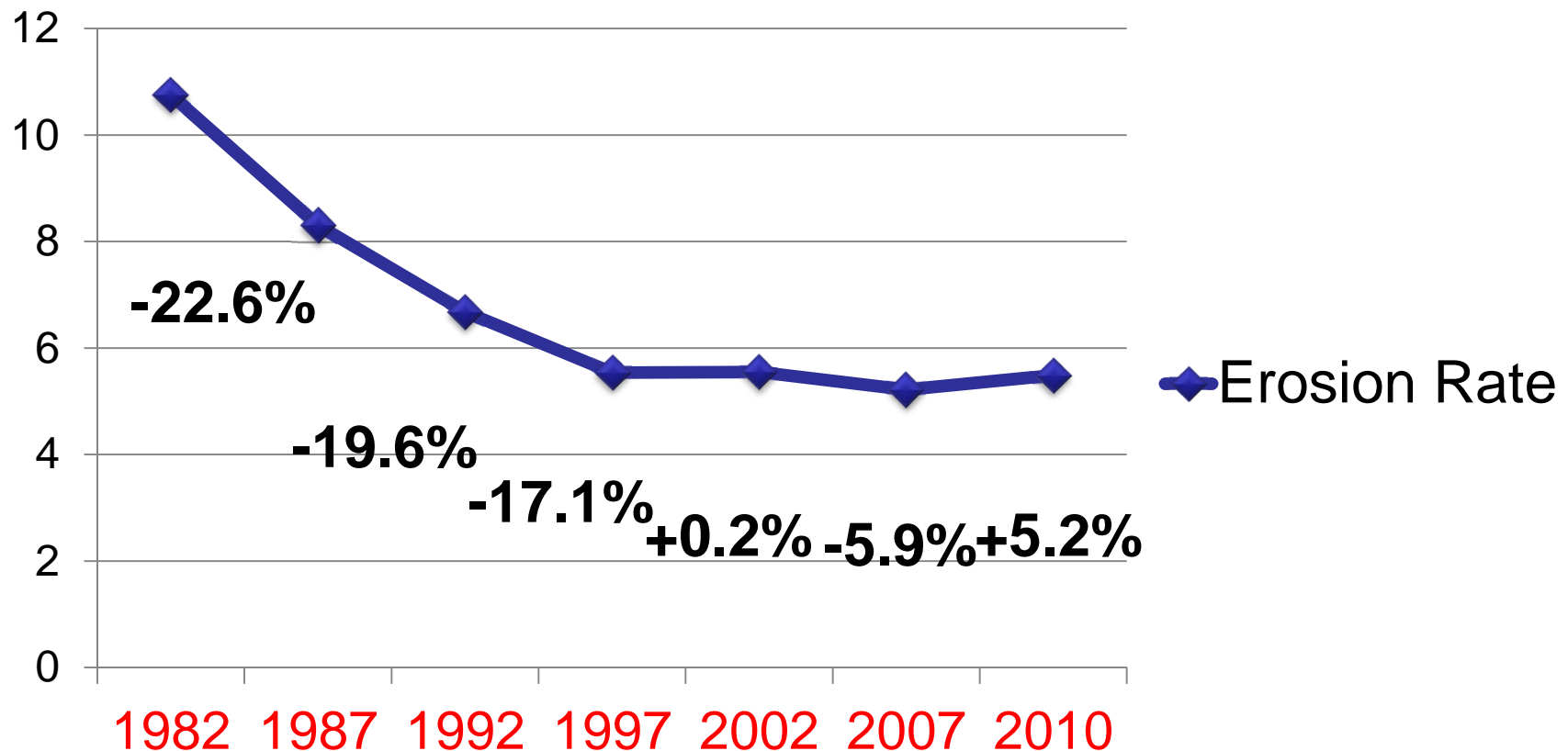


# Soil Loss in Missouri

- 1982 erosion rate - 10.75 tons/acre on cultivated cropland (13M acres)
- The highest erosion rate in the country for cropland, 2<sup>nd</sup> highest for cultivated cropland
- 2010 erosion rate - 5.49 tons/acre (10.3M acres)

Natural Resources Inventory 2010

# Missouri Cultivated Cropland



2010 Natural Resources Inventory



## **Value of Missouri's Soil and Water Conservation Program**

**FY15 \$ 49M overall (\$31M conservation practices)**

*(FAPRI study, Report #31-07, August 2008)*

- Secondary benefits: 10 year period = \$700M
  - ✓ State-wide business sales \$ 500 M
  - ✓ Labor income \$ 80 M
  - ✓ Property income \$ 110 M
  - ✓ Indirect business taxes \$ 14 M
  - ✓ Jobs per year 1,000

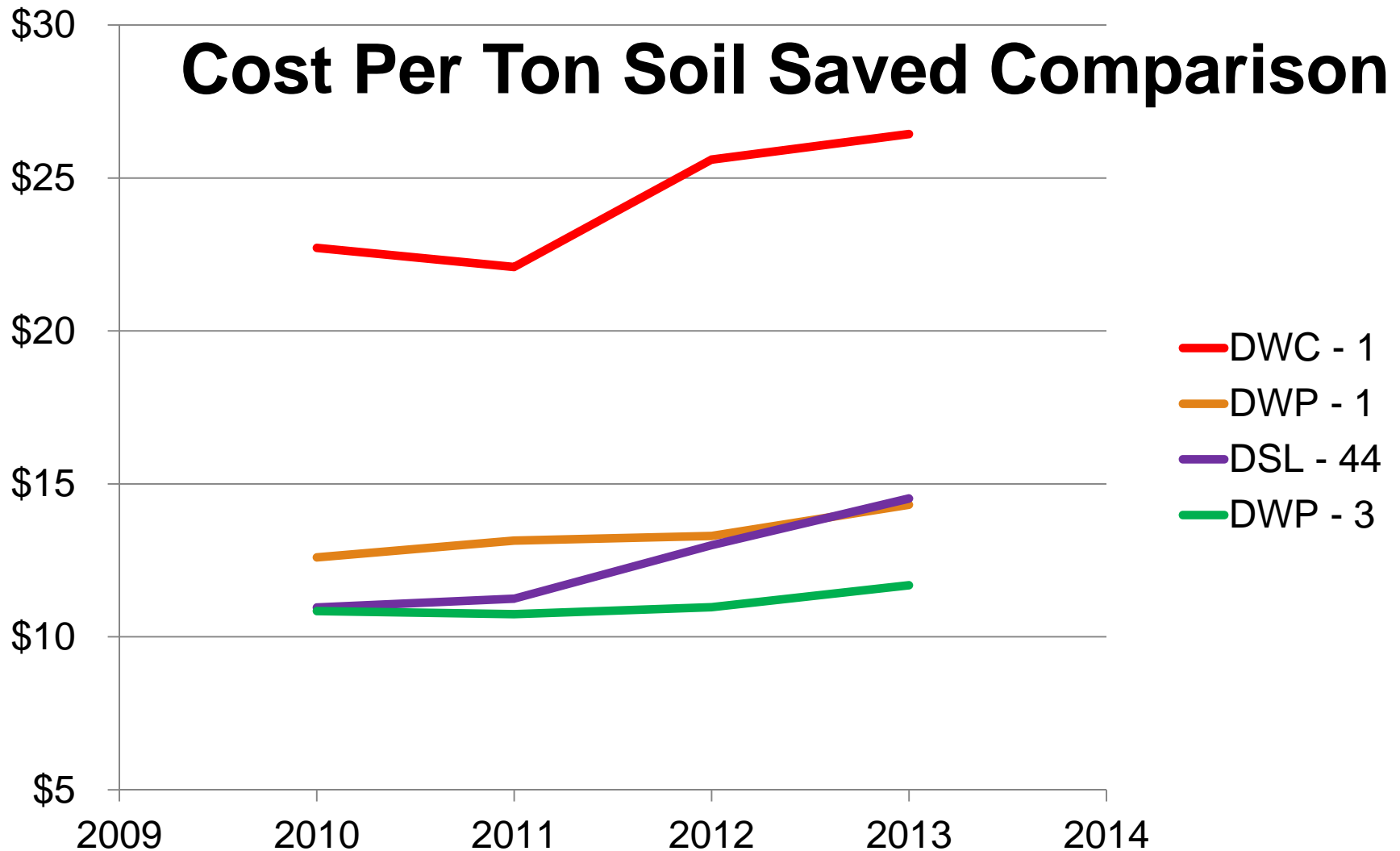
## **Value of Missouri's Soil and Water Conservation Program**

- Leveraging federal funds (\$45M in Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative, and over \$25M annually in other NRCS programs).
- Addresses both water quality and soil erosion issues.
- Supports productive and sustainable agriculture
  - Missouri: \$9.1 billion industry, 2012 Census of Ag



# Mark Twain Lake (Drinking Water)

- Annual benefits of SWCP \$20M/year
  - sediment retention structures
  - water impoundment
  - terraces
- Predicted deposition 11,500 acre-feet per year vs. 1997 computed rate 290 AFY
- Increased life expectancy for lake of 10 years




# HOUSE BILL NO. 250

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
0210S.06T 2009

278.070, RSMo

(4) "Soil and water conservation cost-share program", a state-funded incentive program designed for the purpose of saving the soil **and protecting the water resources** of the state [through erosion control and abatement] **to preserve the productive power of Missouri agricultural land;**



# Challenges

- Continue to reduce soil loss
- Measure water quality impacts
- Determine the value of the conservation practices
- Conservation targeting



# Questions?

